

MARVEL

2

**DAN ABNETT
DAMIAN COUCEIRO
MATT MILLA**

GRIP



Before he was a Guardian of the Galaxy ... before the Grootfall ... a young Groot sapling lived a life of tranquility on his serene homeworld. But when his home is threatened, he must accept his heroic destiny!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

GROOT

PREVIOUSLY...

When a verdant alien world, Planet X, is attacked by a mysterious group called the Spoilers, the young native Groot and his friends, Tweeg and Gleeef, find themselves kidnapped and flung across the galaxy. Luckily for them, they're rescued by an unseasoned private in the Kree Starforce, Mar-Vell.

Mar-Vell and his commanding officer, Captain So-Lar, are sent to recon Planet X and return Groot and his friends home. But Planet X seems to have scant signs of life ... except maybe one.

writer
DAN

ABNETT

artist
DAMIAN

COUCEIRO

color artist
MATT

MILLA

letterer
VC's TRAVIS

LANHAM

cover artist
LEE

GARBETT

variant cover artists

**MARTÍN CÓCCOLO &
JESUS ABURTOV; ERNANDA SOUZA**

designer

CARLOS LAO

assistant editors

KAT GREGOROWICZ & NOAH SHARMA

editor

DARREN SHAN

editor in chief

C.B. CEBULSKI

Groot created by STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER & JACK KIRBY

PLANET X.

I AM
GROOT!

I AM
GROOT!

I AM
GROOT?!

HEY, EASY
THERE, LITTLE
FRIEND.

HE'S TALKING
TO THE TREES LIKE
HE EXPECTS THEM
TO ANSWER.

WITH GOOD REASON,
CAPTAIN SO-LAR. THESE
ARE HIS PEOPLE.

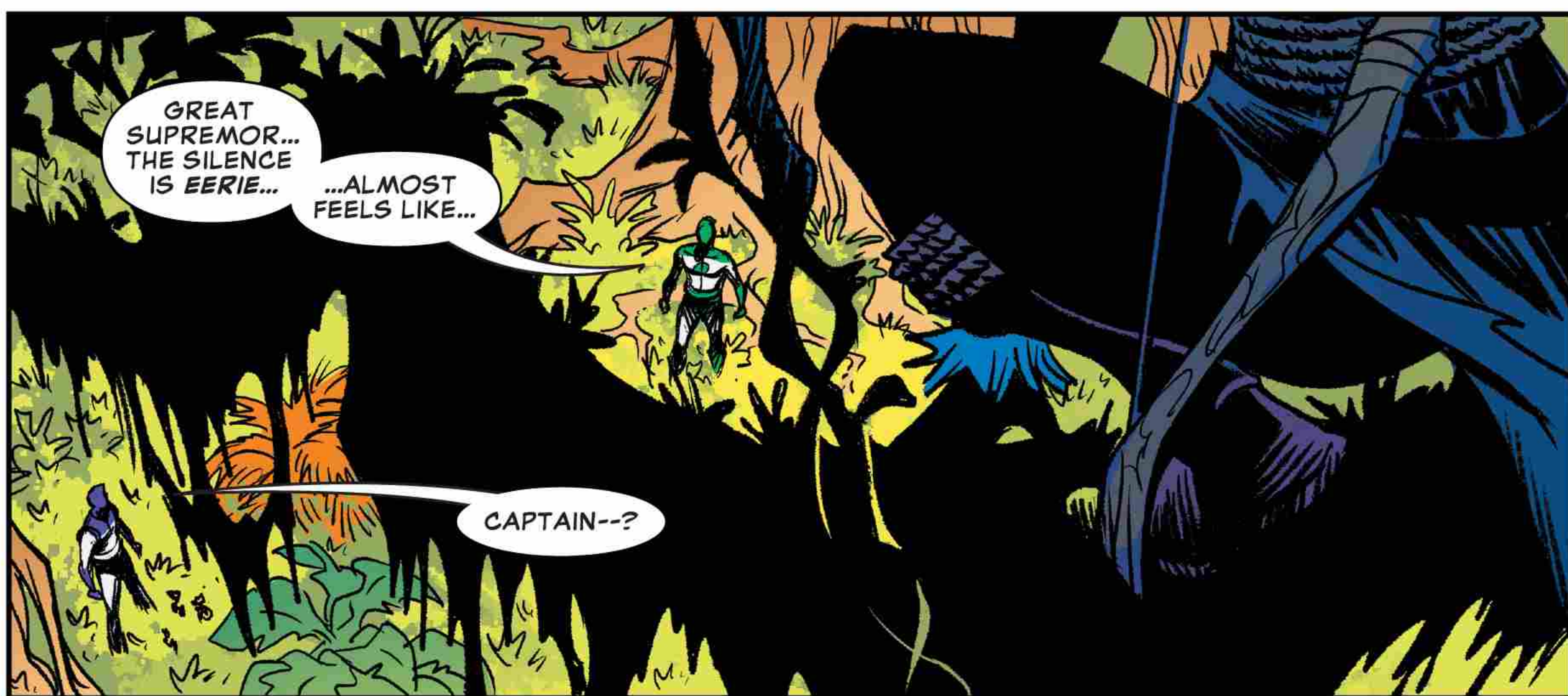
THEN WHY NO
REPLY, PRIVATE
MAR-VELL?

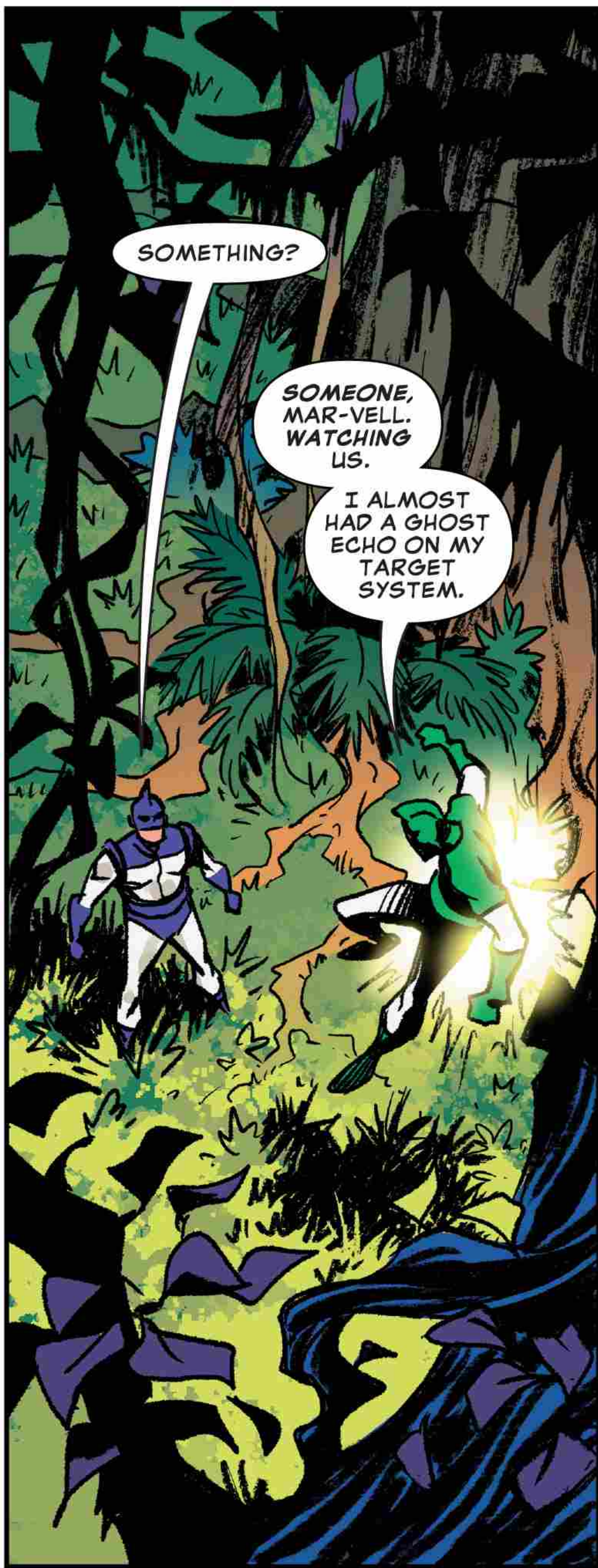
I AM
GROOT...?

THE FORESTS
APPEAR DORMANT,
CAPTAIN. A STATE LIKE
HIBERNATION.

A
PROTECTIVE
MEASURE?
SHOCK?
FEAR?

THE
PLANET'S
CLEARLY BEEN
ATTACKED BY
THE SPOILERS,
SIR...





SOMETHING?

SOMEONE, MAR-VELL. WATCHING US.

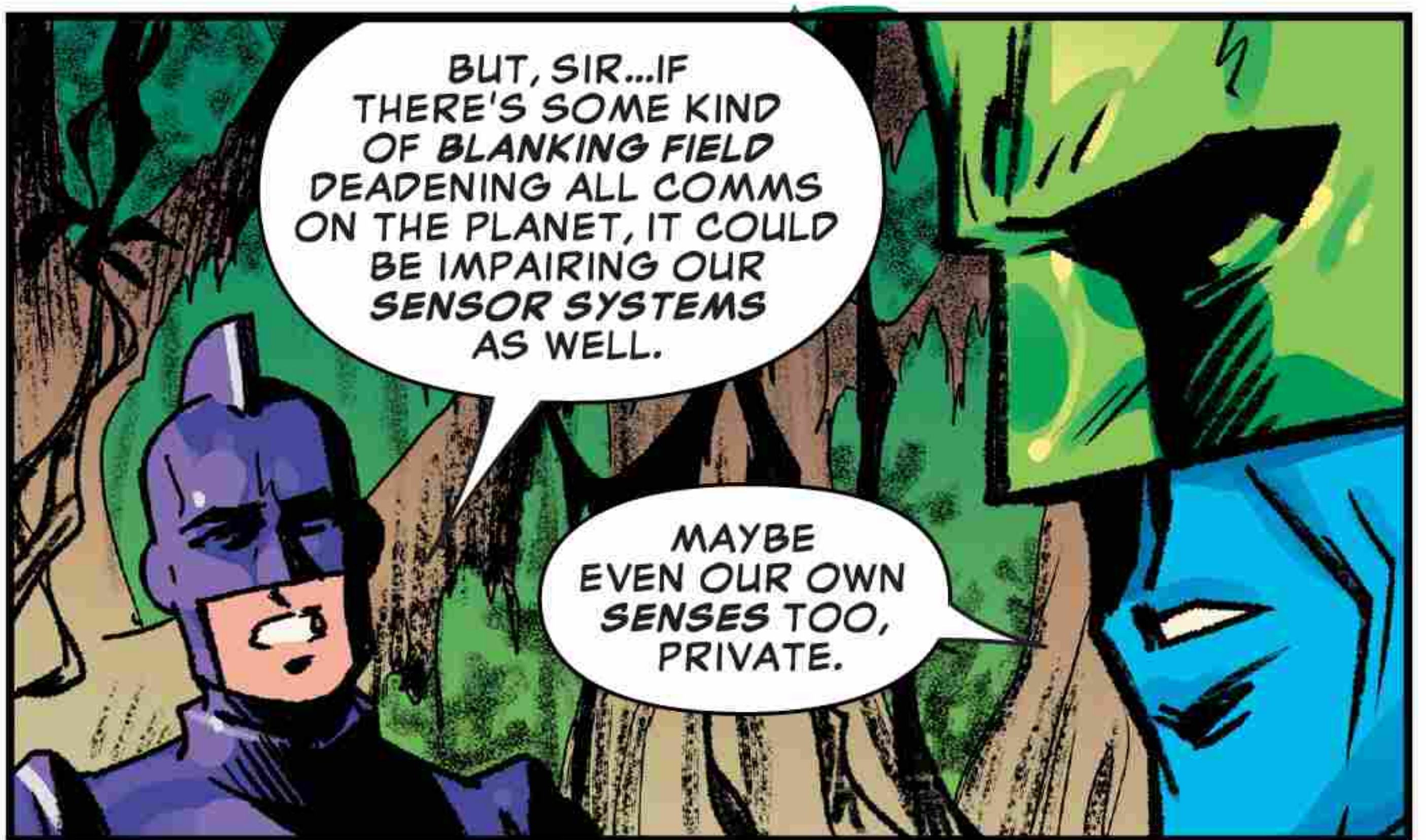
I ALMOST HAD A GHOST ECHO ON MY TARGET SYSTEM.



BODY HEAT?

MOTION, MAYBE.

NOTHING ON MY VISOR IMAGING.



BUT, SIR...IF THERE'S SOME KIND OF BLANKING FIELD DEADENING ALL COMMS ON THE PLANET, IT COULD BE IMPAIRING OUR SENSOR SYSTEMS AS WELL.

MAYBE EVEN OUR OWN SENSES TOO, PRIVATE.



I AM GROOT!

TWEEEG!

GLEEFG!



HALA'S TEETH! THAT IS NOT HOW I WANTED TO PROVE YOUR THEORY CORRECT, MAR-VELL!

HOW DID THAT SNEAK UP ON US?

SIR--

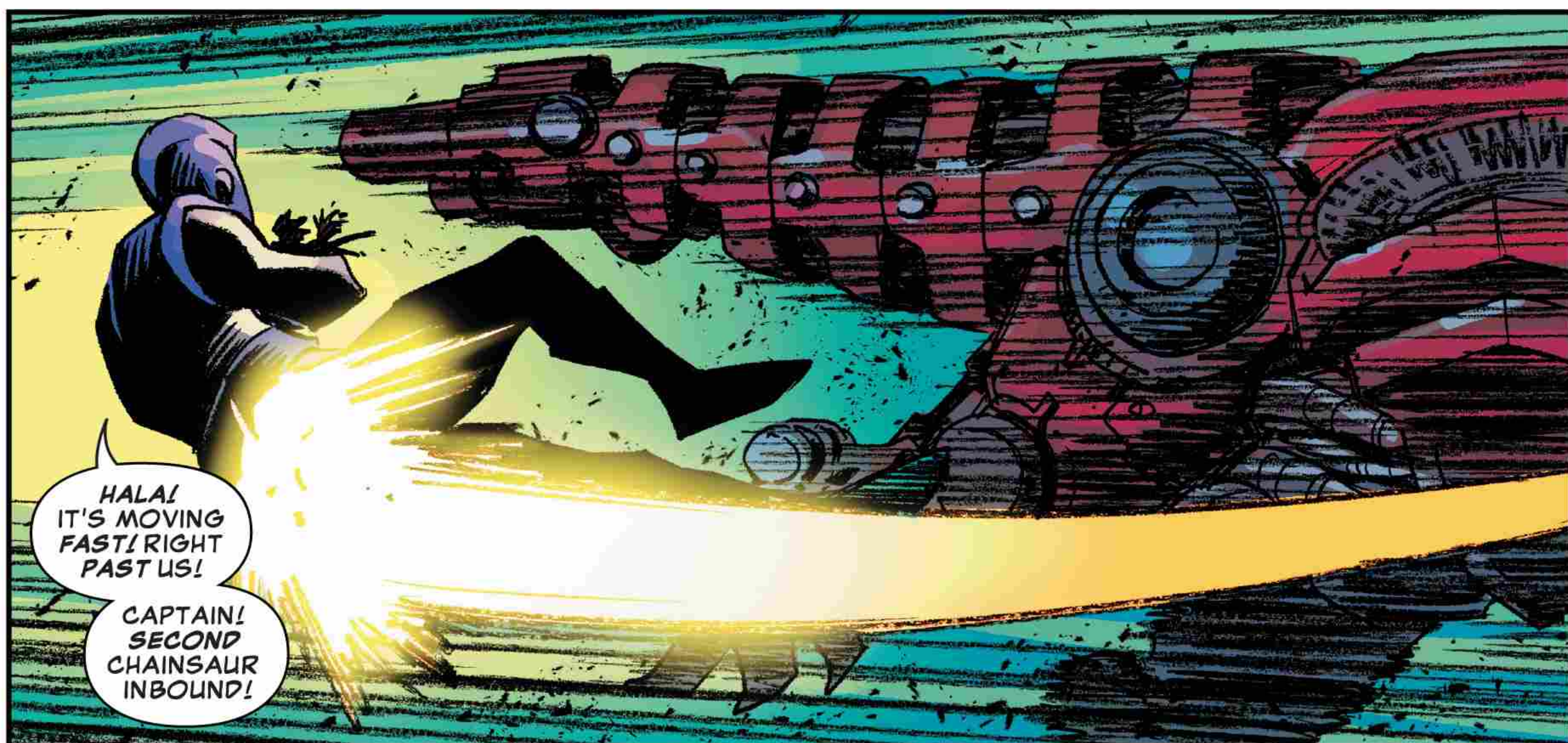
BBBBZZZZRRRRRR

BBZZZZRRRRRR



--LOOK
OUT!

GAAAH!





BZZRRR

ZAKK ZAKK ZAKK

WELL THEN,
WE CAN CONFIRM
THE SPOILERS
ARE HERE AND
IN FORCE...

COME
ON, YOU UGLY
PIECE OF
JUNK!



YOU'RE
DEALING
WITH THE KREE
STARFORCE
NOW!

WHHITZZZ



AND STAY
DOWN!

WHHNNNCCHHH



AH
DAMMIT...



UGHNNNN!







SHORTLY...

I AM
PRIVATE MAR-VELL
OF THE KREE
STARFORCE.

AND YOU
ARE...YONDAR? OF
CENTAURI?

WHY
ARE YOU
HERE?

TO
HUNT.

IS THAT
IT? IS THAT ALL
YOU'RE GOING TO
TELL ME?

I AM
GROOT!

YES.
SEVERAL
WORLDS IN THE
CENTAURI
REGION.

I AM
GROOT?

TO
FIND THESE
SPOILERS.
TO AVENGE
THE LOST
CENTAURI
WORLDS.

GLEEF?

I FOUND
A FRAGMENT OF
BURNED BARK ON ONE OF
THE DESTROYED CENTAURI
WORLDS. I DIVINED ITS
ORIGIN AS THIS PLANET.

TWEEG!

THE
TREES WERE
ALREADY SILENT
WHEN I ARRIVED, AND
THEY REFUSED TO
COMMUNICATE--

SPEAKING OF
THAT...YOU'LL TALK
TO THEM BUT
NOT ME?

IS THIS
GROOT NOT IN
COMMAND?

I RESCUED
THESE THREE
SAPPLINGS FROM A
SPOILER OUTPOST.
THEY ARE UNDER MY
PROTECTION!

SOME
PROTECTION.



I AM GROOT.

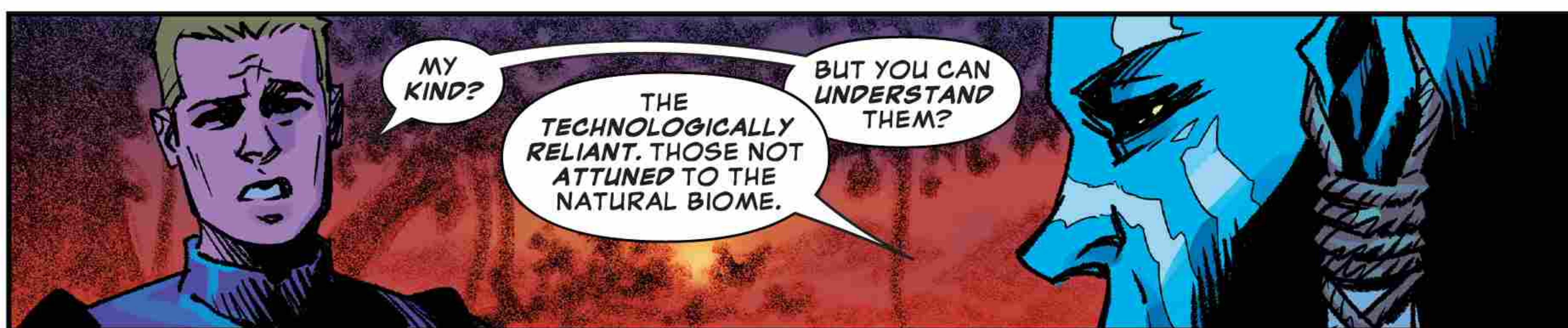
IS HE?
WELL, IF
YOU VOUCH
FOR HIM...



...WHAT DO YOU
WANT TO KNOW, PRIVATE
MAR-VELL OF THE KREE
STARFORCE?

HOW DO
YOU TALK TO
GROOT AND HIS
FRIENDS?

A GIFT.
YOUR KIND
WOULD DEEM IT
MYSTICAL.



MY
KIND?

THE
TECHNOLOGICALLY
RELIANT. THOSE NOT
ATTUNED TO THE
NATURAL BIOME.

BUT YOU CAN
UNDERSTAND
THEM?



MY
COMPREHENSION
IS ONLY PARTIAL,
BUT IT IS
SUFFICIENT.

YOU SAID
THE FORESTS
WERE SILENT
WHEN YOU ARRIVED.
I SPECULATED THAT
THE SILENCE WAS
A PROTECTIVE
DORMANCY--

IT IS
FEAR. AND IT
IS SHAME.



THE
FORESTS
HATE THAT THE
SPOILERS ARE
USING THEIR
WORLD AS
A LAIR.



THIS
IS THEIR
LAIR?

I MUST
INFORM
STARFORCE
AT ONCE--!



THE SPOILERS ARE **BLOCKING OFF-WORLD COMMUNICATION.**

I **KNOW!** I'LL RETURN TO THE SHIP...**GET OFF-PLANET AND WARN--**



THE CHAINSAURS WILL HAVE **DESTROYED YOUR SHIP** BY NOW. THEY DESTROYED MINE AN HOUR AFTER I ARRIVED.

WE ARE **TRAPPED HERE, WITH NO WAY TO WARN THE OUTSIDE UNIVERSE.**

I--



I AM GROOT.

YES, GROOT, THAT WAS MY SUSPICION TOO--

WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WHAT IS HE SAYING?

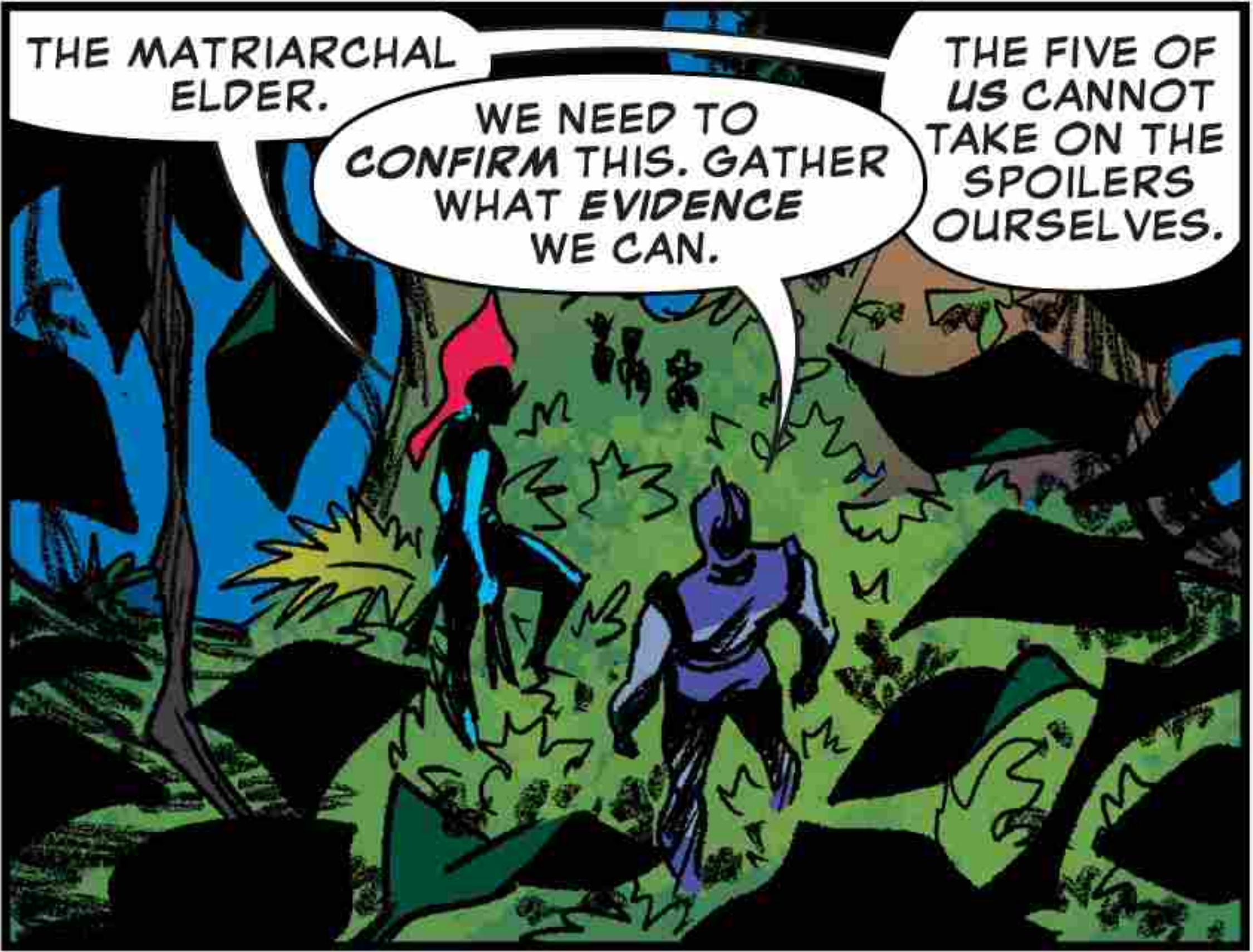


I AM GROOT!

GROOT SUSPECTS THAT THE SPOILERS' PLANETARY BASE MIGHT BE IN A SHUNNED AREA OF THE OLD FORESTS KNOWN AS THE **DEADWOODS.**

GRANOPY USED TO WARN THEM **NEVER TO GO THERE.**

WHO IS GRANOPY?



THE MATRIARCHAL ELDER.

WE NEED TO **CONFIRM THIS. GATHER WHAT EVIDENCE WE CAN.**

THE FIVE OF US CANNOT TAKE ON THE SPOILERS OURSELVES.



PERHAPS.

BUT THE SPOILERS WILL HAVE THEIR OWN **COMMUNICATION SYSTEM.** WE COULD USE IT TO SEND A WARNING.

MAYBE TAKE DOWN THEIR **JAMMING FIELD TOO.**



I AM GROOT.

YES, HE IS BRAVE.

I AM GROOT.

YES, AND DOOMED.



THANKS.

YOU CAN PUT BOTH DOWN TO MY INEXPERIENCE. I AM ONLY A PRIVATE IN THE STARFORCE.

BUT I BELIEVE IT'S WHAT CAPTAIN SO-LAR WOULD HAVE DONE.

I'M GOING.



GROOT? CAN YOU SHOW ME WHERE THE DEADWOODS ARE?

I AM GROOT!

THANK YOU.



THIS REMAINS AN OFFICIAL AND VITAL STARFORCE MISSION. THE FATE OF WORLDS IS AT STAKE.

I'D APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, CENTAURIAN, BUT THAT'S UP TO YOU.



REGULATIONS STATE A CAPTAIN MUST BE PRESENT TO COMMAND ANY STARFORCE MISSION.

I AM OBLIGED TO ASSUME THE BREVET RANK OF CAPTAIN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

TEK



WILL
YOU COME
WITH US?

I AM
GROOT.

SEEING
AS IT IS
GROOT'S WISH
TOO...

VERY WELL,
CAPTAIN
MAR-VELL.

THE FRINGES OF THE DEADWOODS.

WHAT
DO YOU
KNOW OF THE
SPOILERS?

THEY
DESTROY WORLDS.
THEY STRIP RESOURCES.
THEY USE CHAINSAURS.
LITTLE ELSE.

AND
AGZ, THEIR
LEADER?

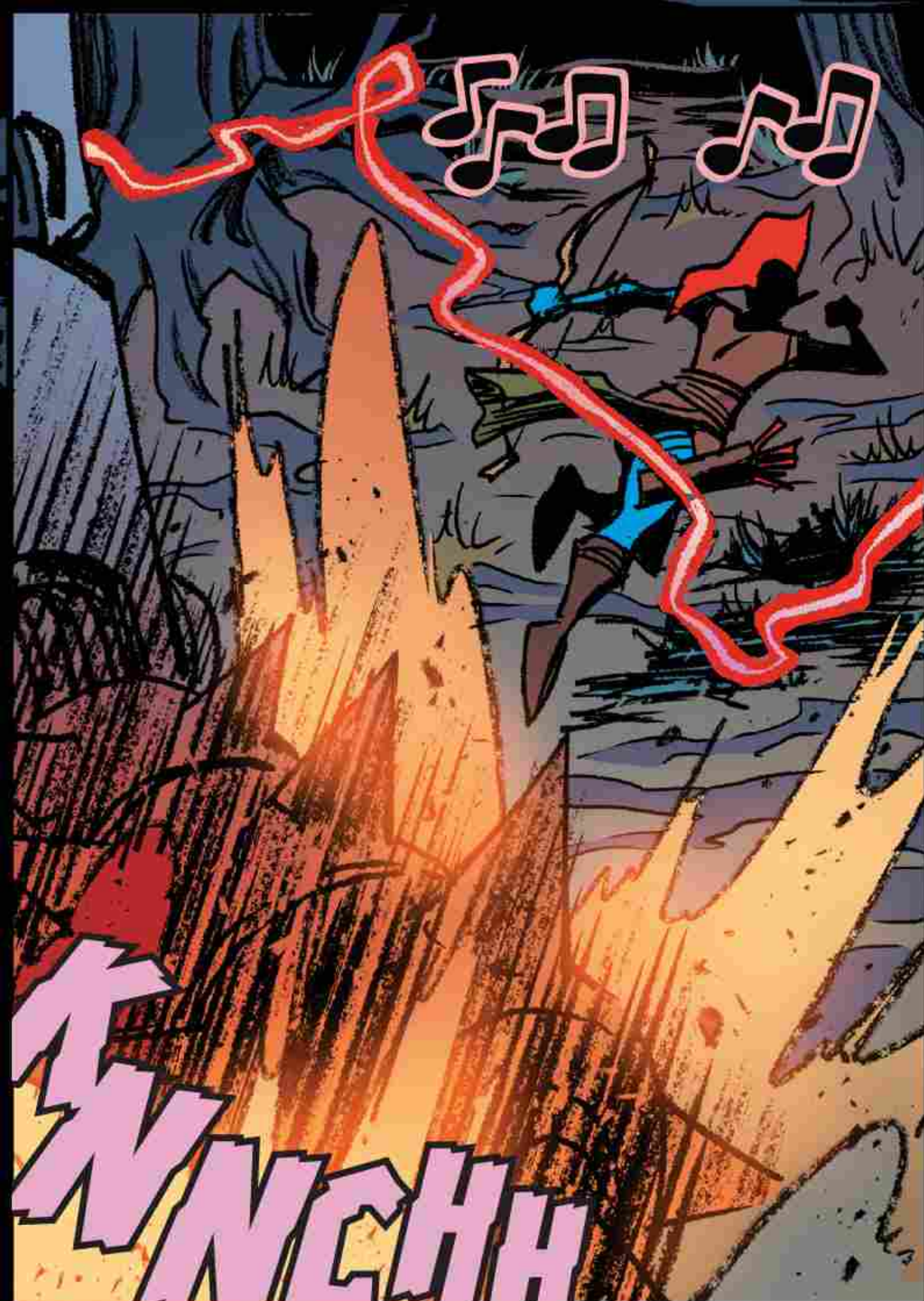
I HAVE
HEARD OF
HIM. I KNOW
NOTHING
MORE.

IF THESE ARE
THE DEADWOODS,
THEY LOOK...

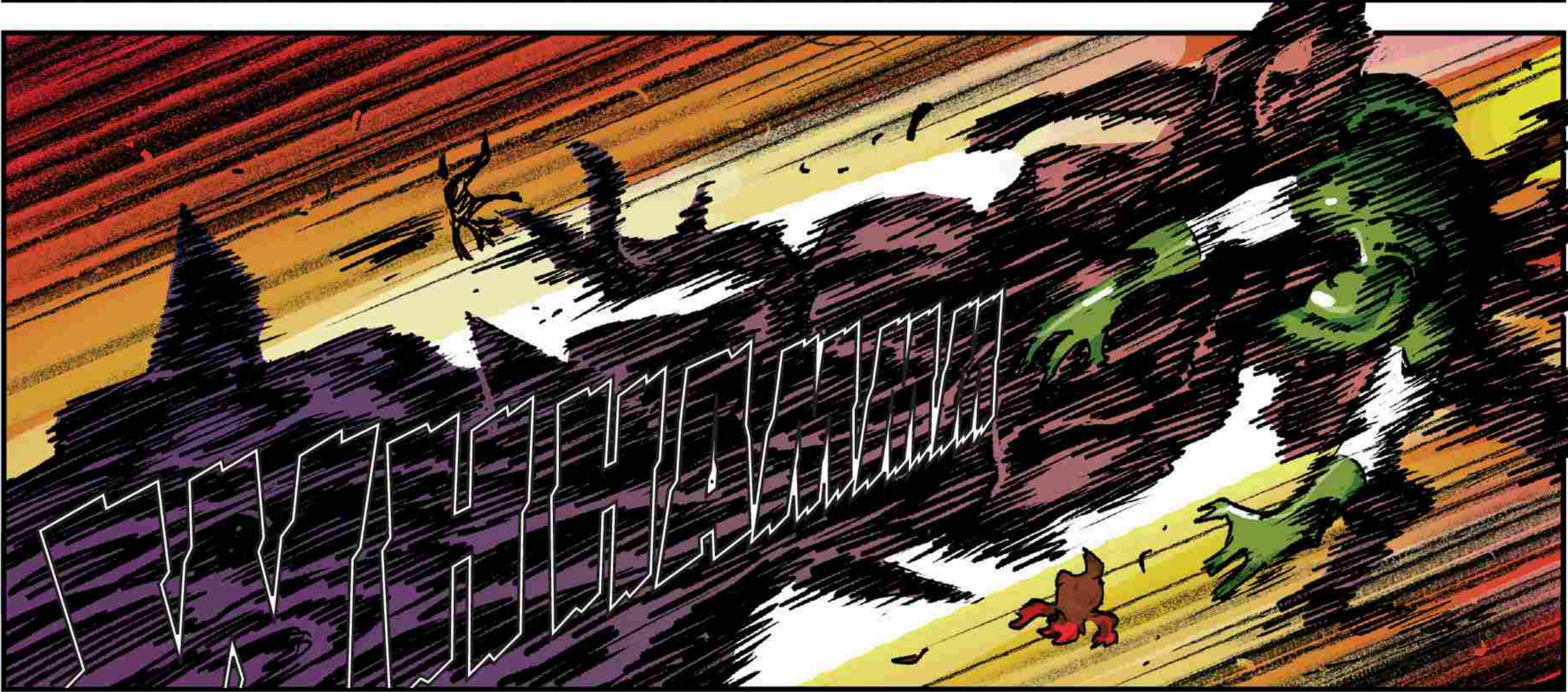
...DEAD.

DECAY
EVERYWHERE.
THESE TREES ARE
DISEASED AND
CORRUPTED.











I AM
AGZ.

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT

#3



Mar-Vell and Yondar have been captured by the monstrous Agz! But there's more to this deadly creature than Groot and his friends realize. Who is he? And why has he razed Groot's homeworld? Find out here!

